

with visual impairments to work more without penalty, we would increase both their tax contribution and their purchasing power. By doing so we would also bring additional funds into the Social Security trust fund and the Federal Treasury.

I urge my colleagues to join me in sponsoring this important legislation to restore the fair and equal treatment for the blind citizens of America. The Blind Persons' Earnings Act of 2008 will provide the blind population with the same freedom and opportunities as our Nation's seniors and the rest of the citizens of this Nation.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be placed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2559

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Blind Persons Earnings Fairness Act of 2008".

SEC. 2. INCREASE IN AMOUNT DEMONSTRATING SUBSTANTIAL GAINFUL ACTIVITY IN THE CASE OF BLIND INDIVIDUALS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 223(d)(4) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 423(d)(4)) is amended—

(1) by striking the second sentence of subparagraph (A); and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(C) No individual who is blind shall be regarded as having demonstrated an ability to engage in substantial gainful activity on the basis of monthly earnings in any taxable year that do not exceed an amount equal to—

“(i) in the case of earnings in the taxable year beginning after December 31, 2007, and before January 1, 2009, \$1,800 per month;

“(ii) in the case of earnings in the taxable year beginning after December 31, 2008, and before January 1, 2010, \$2,200 per month;

“(iii) in the case of earnings in the taxable year beginning after December 31, 2009, and before January 1, 2011, \$2,500 per month;

“(iv) in the case of earnings in the taxable year beginning after December 31, 2010, and before January 1, 2012, \$2,850 per month; and

“(v) in the case of earnings in a taxable year beginning after December 31, 2011, the exempt amount applicable under section 203(f)(8) to an individual who has attained retirement age (as defined in section 216(1)) before the close of the taxable year involved.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 426—CONGRATULATING THE STANFORD UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY TEAM ON WINNING THE 2007 NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION DIVISION I CHAMPIONSHIP

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mrs. BOXER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 426

Whereas the Stanford University Cardinal won the 2007 National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Women's Cross Country Championship on November 19, 2007, in Terre Haute, Indiana;

Whereas the Cardinal won every postseason race and maintained a top ranking throughout the 2007 season;

Whereas in 2007 the Cardinal won a Division I women's cross country title for the 3rd year in a row and the 5th time in school history;

Whereas Arianna Lambie, Lauren Centrowitz, and Katie Harrington were honored as All-Americans for their exceptional contributions during the 2007 season; and

Whereas the 2007 Stanford women's cross country team members are players Arianna Lambie, Lauren Centrowitz, Katie Harrington, Alexandra Gits, Teresa McWalters, Lindsay Allen, Kate Niehaus, Alicia Follmar, Maddie Omeara, and Lindsay Flacks, and coaches Peter Tegen and David Vidal: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate congratulates the Stanford University women's cross country team for winning the 2007 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Championship.

SENATE RESOLUTION 427—CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT BERKELEY MEN'S WATER POLO TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2007 NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION DIVISION I CHAMPIONSHIP

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mrs. BOXER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 427

Whereas the University of California at Berkeley (California) Golden Bears won the 2007 National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Men's Water Polo Championship, 8-6, over the University of Southern California Trojans on December 2, 2007, at the Avery Aquatics Center at Stanford University;

Whereas the California Golden Bears had a 28-4 overall record during the 2007 season;

Whereas in 2007 the California Golden Bears won a Division I men's water polo title for the 2nd year in a row and the 13th time in school history;

Whereas Michael Sharf was named the 2007 NCAA Tournament Most Valuable Player, Zac Monsees, and Jeff Tyrrell were named to the NCAA Tournament 1st team, and Spencer Warden was named to the NCAA Tournament 2nd team; and

Whereas Michael Sharf, Zac Monsees, and Mark Sheredy were named as first-team All-Americans, Adam Haley was named a second-team All-American, and Jeff Tyrrell and Spencer Warden were selected as third-team All-Americans for their exceptional contributions during the 2007 season: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate congratulates the University of California at Berkeley men's water polo team for winning the 2007 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Championship.

SENATE RESOLUTION 428—CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WOMEN'S SOCCER TEAM ON WINNING THE 2007 NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION DIVISION I CHAMPIONSHIP

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mrs. BOXER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 428

Whereas the University of Southern California (USC) Trojans won the 2007 National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Women's Soccer Championship by a 2-0 victory over the Florida State University Seminoles on December 9, 2007, at the Aggie Soccer Complex in College Station, Texas;

Whereas the USC Trojans, in the 2007 season, had a 20-3-2 overall record, with 13 goals allowed, 15 shutouts, and a perfect 6-0 mark in the NCAA Women's Soccer Tournament, including 5 shutouts;

Whereas the USC Trojans won a Division I women's soccer title for the first time in school history in 2007;

Whereas Marihelen Tomer and Janessa Currier each scored a goal in the championship game;

Whereas Amy Rodriguez was named the tournament's Most Outstanding Offensive Player, Kristin Olsen was named the tournament's Most Outstanding Defensive Player, and Marihelen Tomer, Kasey Johnson, and Janessa Currier were named to the All-Tournament Team;

Whereas Ashley Nick and Kristin Olsen earned All-American Honors for their exceptional contributions during the 2007 season; and

Whereas the 2007 USC women's soccer team members are players Kristin Olsen, Brittany Massro, Nini Loucks, Alyssa Dávila, Laura McKee, Kat Stolpa, Lauren Brown, Shannon Lacy, Ashli Sandoval, Jamie Petrossi, Stacey Strong, Karter Haug, Amy Rodriguez, Kasey Johnson, Jacquelyn Johnston, Janessa Currier, Ashley Nick, Marihelen Tomer, Meagan Holmes, Megan Ohai, Kelley Finch, Briana Ovbude, Amy Massey, Kate Gong, and Monique Gaxiola, and coaches Ali Khosroshahin, Harold Warren, Laura Janke, Alicia Lloyd, and Rosa Anna Tantillo: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate congratulates the University of Southern California women's soccer team for winning the 2007 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Championship.

SENATE RESOLUTION 429—HONORING THE BRAVE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD WHOSE TIRELESS WORK, DEDICATION, AND COMMITMENT TO PROTECTING THE UNITED STATES HAVE LED TO THE CONFISCATION OF OVER 350,000 POUNDS OF COCAINE AT SEA DURING 2007

Mrs. DOLE (for herself, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. BURR, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. SNOWE, and Ms. CANTWELL) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. RES. 429

Whereas the estimated import value of the 350,000 pounds of cocaine confiscated by the United States Coast Guard in 2007 is more